

# Facility-Wide Inventory of Mercury and Mercury-Containing Devices

Adapted from: Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA) 2002 Revised Draft Checklist-Mercury in Schools Project

## SCIENCE ROOMS\*

ITEM	DO YOU HAVE THE ITEM(S)? YES / NO	NUMBER or AMOUNT OF ITEM (USED AND STORED)	LOCATION OF ITEMS (BUILDING, FLOOR, ROOM)	HOW MANY NON-MERCURY REPLACEMENTS DO YOU NEED?	NON-MERCURY REPLACEMENTS	COMMENTS		
Jars or other bulk containers of elemental mercury					Depends on the intended use.	Secure container immediately by placing in doubled plastic packaging. Keep locked until appropriate disposal or recycling is arranged.		
<b>Devices containing elemental mercury:</b>								
Mercury lab thermometer					Alcohol glass bulbs, mineral spirits glass bulbs or digital.			
Mercury barometer					Aneroid or digital; new liquid one being developed.			
Mercury hygrometer					Spirit-filled glass bulb, digital or aneroid.			
Mercury hydrometer								
Mercury vacuum gauge								
Mercury spectral tube					At least 16 alternative gases are available.	Ask your scientific supplies distributor for a list of alternative gases.		
Mercury molecular motion device								
Mercury sling psychrometer					Mineral spirits glass bulb thermometers	Some non-mercury thermometers can fit into old psychrometers. Check the manufacturer.		
Mercury gas law apparatus					A simple Charles' Law Apparatus may suffice.			
Mercury anemometer					Digital versions available.			
Other metallic mercury-containing instruments					Non-mercury alternatives are available for most instruments. Contact the manufacturer. Also try: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/seahome">http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/seahome</a>	Always check with the original manufacturer for contents of older devices and components. They may have a collection or swap-out program available. Also see: <a href="http://www.newmoa.org/newmoa/htdocs/prevention/mercury/imerc/notification/index.cfm">http://www.newmoa.org/newmoa/htdocs/prevention/mercury/imerc/notification/index.cfm</a>		
<b>CONTACT INFORMATION:</b>					<p>* Note: Please read the entire inventory. These items are commonly found in the areas listed, but may also be found elsewhere. Questions? Contact your school's Board of Cooperative Educational Services Health &amp; Safety representative, regional NYS Department of Environmental Conservation office or local health department. See also the Mercury Management in New York State website: <a href="http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshm/redrecy/mercury.htm">http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshm/redrecy/mercury.htm</a></p>			
<b>NAME:</b>								
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## MEDICAL, HOME ECONOMICS, & OTHER LOCATIONS\*

ITEM	DO YOU HAVE THE ITEM(S)? YES / NO	NUMBER or AMOUNT OF ITEM (USED AND STORED)	LOCATION OF ITEMS (BUILDING, FLOOR, ROOM)	HOW MANY NON-MERCURY REPLACEMENTS DO YOU NEED?	NON-MERCURY REPLACEMENTS	COMMENTS		
<b>Medical*</b>								
Mercury fever thermometer					Digital, glass bulb non-mercury (gallium, indium, tin), or tympanic thermometers	Non-mercury alternatives are available. For more information, see: <a href="http://www.newmoa.org/newmoa/htdocs/prevention/mercury/imerc/notification/index.cfm">http://www.newmoa.org/newmoa/htdocs/prevention/mercury/imerc/notification/index.cfm</a>		
Mercury sphygmomanometer (blood pressure device with silver liquid) hand-held unit, mobile unit, or wall unit					Aneroid or digital sphygmomanometers			
<b>Home Economics*</b>								
Mercury cooking thermometer (with the silver liquid)					Spirit-filled glass bulb, or digital thermometers			
Mercury thermometer for freezers, refrigerators, and incubators					Spirit-filled thermometers			
<b>Other*</b>								
Mercury oxide or mercury zinc batteries (old alkaline type, prior to 1996) and button batteries					Non-mercury alternatives may be available soon. For example, Sony has announced a new line of button batteries in 2005.	Newer alkaline batteries do not contain added mercury.		
Amulets with mercury					Consult your cultural or religious advisor, as appropriate, for possible alternatives.			
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## FACILITIES\*

ITEM	DO YOU HAVE THE ITEM(S)? YES / NO	NUMBER or AMOUNT OF ITEM (USED AND STORED)	LOCATION OF ITEMS (BUILDING, FLOOR, ROOM)	HOW MANY NON-MERCURY REPLACEMENTS DO YOU NEED?	NON-MERCURY REPLACEMENTS	COMMENTS
Fluorescent lamps					Low-mercury fluorescent lamps are available. These brands are identified by green ends, or green etchings on the bulb, and should also be recycled.	Do you currently recycle them? Yes      No
Lamps weighted with mercury						Some very old desk and floor lamps used liquid mercury in the base as a weight.
Mercury vapor lamps, metal halide lamps, high-pressure sodium vapor lamps					For example, Sylvania makes a non-mercury, high-pressure sodium lamp called Lumalux.	Mercury vapor lamps are the oldest and least efficient high-intensity discharge lamp.
Mercury gauges					Depends on the application. Check with the manufacturer.	
Mercury manometers					Non-mercury versions are available. Check with the manufacturer.	May also be known as "plumber's manometers." Used to check gas line pressure after installation or repair.
Old paints and pesticides containing mercury fungicides (prior to 1992)					New latex indoor paints do not contain mercury-added fungicides.	Old pesticides are by definition dangerous chemicals even without the fungicides. Licensed applicators should handle them.

## Mercury components within larger systems (structurally-integrated or relatively inaccessible)\*

ITEM	DO YOU HAVE THE ITEM(S)? YES / NO	NUMBER or AMOUNT OF ITEM (USED AND STORED)	LOCATION OF ITEMS (BUILDING, FLOOR, ROOM)	HOW MANY NON-MERCURY REPLACEMENTS DO YOU NEED?	NON-MERCURY REPLACEMENTS	COMMENTS
Mercury thermostats					Non-mercury sealed switches, and programmable and non-programmable electronic switches.	Some heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) wholesalers collect mercury thermostats for recycling. For more information contact: Thermostat Recycling Corporation, (703) 841-3249 <a href="http://www.nema.org/index_nema.cfm/664/">http://www.nema.org/index_nema.cfm/664/</a>

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Mercury "silent" light switches					New light switches do not contain mercury.	Manufactured prior to 1991, mercury light switches look like typical wall switches, but do not make the audible "click" sound when activated.
Mercury float control switches (e.g. on sump pumps)					Non-mercury alternatives are available. For more information, contact the manufacturer. Also try: <a href="http://www.newmoa.org/newmoa/htdocs/prevention/mercury/imerc/notification/index.cfm">http://www.newmoa.org/newmoa/htdocs/prevention/mercury/imerc/notification/index.cfm</a>	
Mercury flow meters					For most users, your supplier will have a non-mercury model.	
Other equipment with mercury switches (e.g., flame sensors, fire alarms, safety valves)					Non-mercury alternatives are available, such as hard-contact switches, solid-state switches, electro-optical switches, inductive sensors, and ultrasonic sensors. For more information, see: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/seahome">http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/seahome</a>	

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<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshmr/redrecy/mercury.htm>

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NOTE: Website addresses may change over time. Those listed here were current when published.